

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method comprising:
recording procedures performed by a care provider during a follow-up consultation with a patient having an implanted device, wherein at least some of the procedures relate to the implanted device;
analyzing the procedures; and
based at least in part on the analyzing, recommending one or more procedures for a subsequent follow-up consultation.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the recording comprises recording interrogation procedures for interrogating the implanted device.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein the recording comprises recording procedures for communicating diagnostic data.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein the recording comprises recording procedures for threshold assessments.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein the recording comprises recording procedures for rhythm assessments.
6. The method of claim 1, wherein the analyzing comprises engaging in statistical analysis.
7. The method of claim 6, wherein the statistical analysis comprises confidence level analysis.
8. The method of claim 1, wherein the analyzing comprises pattern analysis.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein the analyzing comprises comparing the procedural information to previously recorded procedural information.
10. The method of claim 1, wherein the analyzing comprises relying at least in part on guidelines.
11. The method of claim 1, wherein the recommending comprises recommending one or more procedures for the patient.
12. The method of claim 1, wherein the recommending comprises recommending one or more procedures for the care provider.
13. The method of claim 1, wherein the recommending comprises recommending one or more procedures for a different patient.
14. The method of claim 1, wherein the recommending comprises recommending one or more procedures for patients having an implanted device manufactured by the same manufacturer as the implanted device.
15. The method of claim 1, further comprising presenting the one or more recommended procedures to a care provider during a subsequent follow-up consultation with the patient having the implanted device.
16. An apparatus comprising:
 - means for recording procedures performed by a care provider during a follow-up consultation with a patient having an implanted device;
 - means for analyzing the procedures; and
 - means for recommending one or more procedures for a subsequent follow-up consultation.

17. The apparatus of claim 16, further comprising means for communicating with the implanted device.
18. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the means for recording comprises an input device for inputting information to a computer.
19. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the means for recording comprises a programming system for the implanted device.
20. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the means for recording records procedures in real-time.
21. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the means for recording records event after the follow-up consultation.
22. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the means for recording records commands for communicating with the implanted device.
23. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the means for analyzing comprises statistical analysis software.
24. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the means for recommending comprises a programming system for the implanted device.
25. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the means for recommending comprises a display.

26. A programming system for an implanted device comprising:
an input operative to input procedural information;
statistical analysis software operative to analyze the procedural
information; and
an output operative to output one or more recommended
procedures based at least in part on a statistical analysis of the
procedural information performed using the statistical analysis software.